

ICS 3702-88
7 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Lieutenant General Edward J. Heinz, USAF
Director, Intelligence Community Staff

SUBJECT: Intelligence Community Review of US Capabilities
to Monitor Nuclear Tests [redacted]

1. Action Requested: This memorandum is for your information, unless you wish to provide guidance. [redacted]

2. Background: In November 1987, the HPSCI issued a report on intelligence support to arms control based on extensive hearings from arms control and technical experts. These hearings emphasized the crucial role of treaty monitoring by US intelligence in the verification process of any arms control agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union. [redacted]

3. The HPSCI particularly emphasized concern in its report about US intelligence capabilities to monitor Soviet nuclear detonations within the context of present and proposed US/USSR nuclear test ban treaties. In fact several key recommendations formulated by the HPSCI relate specifically to this arms control monitoring issue. (See clipped page of HPSCI report.) [redacted]

4. Discussion: Since the HPSCI is one of our Oversight Committees, it is important to pay attention to any of its concerns. Thus, the Requirements and Evaluation Office, Intelligence Community Staff--acting as executive agent for the ICS and ACIS/SAMWG--has been assigned the responsibility of preparing a joint Intelligence Community study that will evaluate the problems raised by the HPSCI regarding US intelligence capabilities to monitor Soviet nuclear detonations, and suggest initiatives for improvement. [redacted]

5. This study takes on added importance since Secretary of State Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze have apparently agreed, during their recent meeting in Moscow, that both sides would work on verification plans for the two US/USSR nuclear treaties being discussed in Geneva (the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty). Such plans, if accepted would permit the US administration to ask the Senate to ratify these two treaties. [redacted]

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6. The point of our effort, therefore, is to address both the substance of the matter and to control the timing and nature of any treatment of these issues between the executive and legislative branches. The HPSCI will be apprised of our effort. [REDACTED]

7. As outlined in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR), the study will examine and evaluate the HPSCI's key recommendations specifically relating to our nuclear monitoring capabilities, including the requirements process, collection (technical) capabilities, analytical capabilities, and management-oriented issues. [REDACTED]

8. The attached TOR includes suggestions from ACIS, JAEIC, MASINT Committee and OSWR/NED, who were provided a draft TOR for comment. [REDACTED]

9. If you have any comment on our proposed study, please advise us at your earliest convenience. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Edward J. Heinz
Lieutenant General, USAF

Attachment:
As stated

SECRET [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Intelligence Community Review of US Capabilities
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